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S E C R E T AMMAN 000192

SIPDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/09/2023

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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO JORDAN ON ABU ABBAS

REF: STATE 7054

Classified By:AMBASSADOR EDWARD W. GNEHM; REASONS: 1.5(B) AND (D)

1. (S) The Ambassador made the points in reftel to Foreign Minister Muasher on the morning of January 9. Muasher said he understood the importance of the issue and would talk immediately to the Prime Minister and to GID Director Sa'ad Kheir.

2. (S/NF) Simultaneously, we raised the issue through ORCA channels. GID Director Kheir told us he was aware of reports about Abu Abbas' travel and would inform us if there was evidence that he might be transiting Amman. Kheir said the Jordanians would "delay" Abu Abbas at the airport if he arrived. In answer to our question, Kheir said the GOJ had not heard from the Italian authorities.
GNEHM